

altogether twenty-one have been received, and counting himself he now has a membership of twenty-two. Our brother is doing excellent work and should have the support as well as the prayers of the whole brotherhood. The prospects for a Brethren church in Canada are very bright indeed.

Probably the reader, including Brother Yoder himself, will wonder why two articles appear in this issue in the contribution department by Brother Yoder. The Apostolic Church, Its Organization, etc., was prepared for National Conference and ordered published in the EVANGELIST. During our illness the article was handed to the compositors together with a second one; both were in type before the editor knew that the two articles had been handed to the compositors. It would have been an easy matter to leave one over for next week, but that would have necessitated setting another to take its place in which case the paper would have been one day late. Hence both contributions appear in this issue.

Brother Darling has resigned his work at Pittsburg, Pa., and within a month or more will leave for California where he has been called to take charge of the evangelistic work of that state, and for which he is specially fitted. The Pittsburg charge will lose a good preacher and a good pastor, and very reluctantly did they agree to give up their shepherd. In his hands the work at that place has prospered, the church has gradually grown in numbers and in spiritual strength; a splendid church edifice has been erected with parsonage attached, and on the whole Brother Darling leaves that work in excellent condition. He has the happy faculty of growing into the hearts of the people and being of a sympathetic nature he becomes very closely attached to his people. Some very near and dear ties will be severed when he leaves Pittsburg, but the prayers of his people will go with him. We have every reason to believe that Brother Darling will meet with success in his new field of labor, and that under the leadership of Brethren Darling and Shively, the cause of the Brethren church in California will develop into great strength. So may it be.

Brother Gillin has resigned the pastorate of the Waterloo and Enon churches and with his wife goes east to spend sometime in school. The entire brotherhood will miss Brother Gillin during the time he is away at school, and especially will the congregations which he so faithfully served as pastor for a period of six years greatly miss him. Brother Gillin is not only a gifted preacher but he is a splendid pastor, an enthusiastic supporter of all the institutions of the church, an uncompromising advocate of the doctrines of the Brethren church, a man of strong faith, an open mind and expansive, loving heart. Having spent a few days among his people during the summer months we do not speak at random when we say that his people dearly love him and that it required no little persuasion on his part to get their consent to let him go. He has done excellent work among his own people. As a result of his efforts the Brethren have in Waterloo a beautiful church edifice, a faithful and devoted membership, with prospects for the building up of a strong congregation. But his influence has been felt far out beyond the limits of his own congregation. His zeal and enthusiasm, his tireless activity, have touched the ends of the brotherhood. His noble wife has been a true helpmeet to him, a supporter of his work both in sympathy and otherwise. We trust that during the few years he may spend away from the brotherhood as it were and in school he will not altogether be lost to us. He has promised to remember the EVANGELIST, and our readers may confi-

dently expect to hear good things from him. He is looking forward to yet larger preparation for the larger work that is awaiting him in the Brethren church, and while we regret to have him absent from the brotherhood for so long a time, we comfort ourselves in the fact that upon his return he will be of yet greater usefulness to us. May the Lord grant himself and wife health and strength and enable them to finish the work upon which they are about to enter.

Information Bureau

1. Does the Bible teach open communion?

The Bible does not say anything about either close or open communion. The teaching of the word, however, plainly is that the communion service is intended for the children of God.

2. Can a minister of the Brethren church be justified in the sight of God when he performs the act of sprinkling water as a substitute for baptism upon a candidate for baptism who is very sick, and who believes that one mode of baptism is just as good as another?

A minister who is in good standing in the Brethren church and in full fellowship can consistently administer the ordinance of baptism only by trine immersion. In the case of one who has neglected baptism until he has reached his death bed and can no longer receive baptism by immersion and yet desires baptism, a minister of the Brethren church is not the proper person to send for. The pastor of a Brethren church who has been faithful to his calling and has not shunned to declare the whole truth is not likely to be called on to administer baptism by pouring or sprinkling. If he has not been derelict in his duty: if he has been diligent in clearly defining his position: if he has been, as he ought to be, an uncompromising advocate of the doctrines which are the only apology for the existence of the Brethren church; if he has been faithful in the presentation of these doctrines to the people for their acceptance or rejection, then it is our opinion that the pastor of the Brethren church is not the one that is likely to be called where sprinkling is to be administered for baptism. A pastor of a Brethren church who has been preaching in a community for eight or ten years and is then called upon to administer baptism by sprinkling or pouring, or by any other mode than by trine immersion, has reason to reflect very seriously on unused opportunities.

3. Is it lawful for a Sunday school class to choose its own teacher?

Not always, in fact very seldom. The authority to select the teacher does not belong to the class. To concede to every class in the school the right to choose its own teacher would throw the school into a condition of anarchy. There are times when it is not well even to consult the class as to who its teacher is to be. To this, however, there are many exceptions; sometimes it may be very judicious to consult the class. At all times it is wise to ascertain as far as possible the character and the preferences of the scholars, and as a rule this can be done far more satisfactorily in an indirect way than by formally submitting the matter to a vote of the class. An infant class is as incapable of choosing its own teacher as its members are incapable of voting intelligently for the officers of the school. The selection of teachers and officers of the school should be in the hands of a Board of officers appointed by the church for that purpose. To leave the choice of teachers to the several classes would be to destroy all government in the school.

4. Was the thief on the cross baptized?

There is no way of determining whether he was or was not baptized. There are those who claim

that he was baptized by John the Baptist when he was baptizing in the wilderness and all Judea and the country round about came and were baptized of him in Jordan. But there is not a particle of evidence that the thief was among the number thus baptized. He may have been and he may not have been. Nobody knows anything about that. But what matters it? When Jesus was here on earth he had authority and power to save people as it pleased him. When he left he gave a plan to his disciples and thru them to the church of all ages. If the thief on the cross was not baptized it is not an argument against baptism, and if he was baptized it is not an argument in its favor. As we look at it there is nothing to be gained from a discussion of the question for the reason that when all is said that can be said on the subject no one will know any more about it than he does now.

Notice to the Churches of Ohio

The churches of Ohio have undertaken, thru the State Mission Board, to help support our work in Dayton, Troy and Mansfield. The funds in the treasurer's hands are exhausted. Will not all our congregations, Sunday-schools and Young People's Societies lift collections for this work soon? Brethren, the help to do this work must come from you. Send all money to

E. J. WORST, Treas.

Ashland, Ohio.

A Correction

In EVANGELIST No. 31, page 11, column one, in the Secretary's report of July, Chicago Report, should read Corinth church, Indiana, \$1.62, College Corner church, Indiana, \$1.13; Loree church, Indiana, \$5.25. Per Elder Hopkins.

D. A. HOPKINS.

The September Magazine Number of THE OUTLOOK contains half a dozen or more fully illustrated articles, an equal number of full-page portraits of men and women of the day, a long section of the new novel by Ralph Connor, the author of "The Sky Pilot," called "The Man from Glengarry," and the usual carefully-prepared history of the week, editorials, book reviews, etc., etc. Among the more notable illustrated articles is that on Pittsburg, by Lillian W. Betts, originally illustrated from many photographs lately taken for the purpose by Mr. Henry Hoyt Moore. Mr. Riis's "The Making of an American" is also very fully illustrated; the chapter in this issue tells the story of New York police reform under Commissioner Roosevelt. Other illustrated articles are "The New Bishop of London," by William Durban, "In the Cotton Fields," by Max Bennett Thrasher, and "A Philippine Educational Exhibit." (\$3 a year. THE OUTLOOK COMPANY, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York.)

THE DELINEATOR for October is full of good general reading, most tastefully illustrated under the immediate direction of the well known artist, William Martin Johnson. Mr. Johnson's work is known to lovers of the beautiful, by reason of the Garfield edition of *Ben Hur*, as well as some other books of large sale. Mr. Johnson believes in illustrations that illustrate, rather than in pictures that only ornament a page. The whole October number of THE DELINEATOR is full of interest to men as well as to women.

Notice

The Pan-American Exposition is now at its best and in connection with the great Niagara Falls is well worth seeing. I will entertain brethren or others who write me thru this notice for \$1 a day each. This includes comfortable lodging with use of room at all times, bath, toilet, etc. Write a few days before coming.

JOHN E. STRAYER.

107 Barton St., Buffalo, N. Y.